

Nurture Nature - Week 1

3D bird card in the style of Mark Hearld



This week you will need

Printed bird outline on A4

If you don't have a kit you can use the template in this worksheet and a sheet of A4 paper

Postcard sized paper

or use a blank postcard or cut a piece of paper to approximate size

Pencil, sharpener, eraser

Wax crayons

Water colour paints *You could also use inks or brusho*

Paint brush and a water pot

Small sponge *Or cut a washing up sponge into 6-8 pieces*

PVA glue

Thin ribbon approx 30cm/12inch

Black marker pen

Chalk

A5/C5 size envelope

Scissors

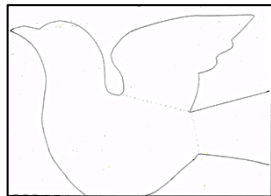
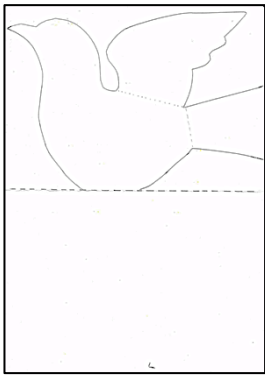
Newspaper or something to cover your work surface

This week we are going to make a 3D bird card which we will post to someone, its always nice to receive a card in the post especially a hand made one.

The examples above are cards designed by Mark Hearld, you may have seen them in the shops. As well as being a card they make a great decoration for any time of year.

You can make your card realistic like the robin or decorative like the blue bird.

We will work with a simple wax resist technique.



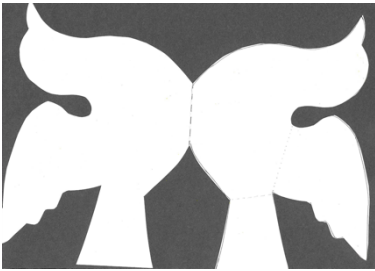
1a

1b

1. Use your pre-printed template (*fig 1a*) or make your own following instructions on page 4

Fold your A4 paper in half along bottom of bird (*fig 1b*)

Cut around bird through both layers, do not cut across the fold!



2

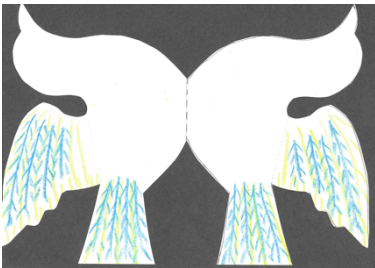
2. Open your bird out and it should look like this (*fig 2*)



3

3. Use wax crayons to decorate the bird with patterns, you could make feather patterns, add an eye on each side, whatever you like. (*fig 3*)

Don't cover the whole bird with wax - make sure you have spaces of white paper around the patterns. We are going to paint over the top for the wax resist effect



4

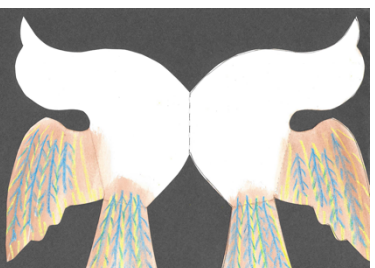
4. Turn your bird over and repeat your patterns on the wings and tail only (*fig 4*) The white areas will be glued together later.

You can also make patterns on your message card if you want to, all over one side and around the edge of the other side to make a border for your message (*fig 12*)



5

5. Use one of the small sponges and watercolour paint to sponge paint all over the bird. Use the paint thinly, squeeze most of the water out of the sponge so it's not too wet and wipe it smoothly over the surface. Cover the surface of the bird and the wax crayon will resist the paint and your patterns will show through. (*fig 5*) If it gets too wet use a dry sponge to wipe off excess water. You only need to wipe the paint over the surface once, if you keep working over the top while the paint is wet you will ruin the paper. This is just a base coat and we will add more paint when it's dry. Leave to dry, or use a hairdryer.



6

6. Turn over and repeat step 5 on the wings and tail (*fig 6*) Leave to dry or speed up with a hairdryer. Repeat on your message card (*fig 12*)



7

7. When the first layer of paint is dry use a brush and thicker watercolour paint to add more colour and detail. (fig 7) You can add several layers to build up depth of colour but you must always wait for the previous layer to dry before adding the next, if not the colours will run and the paper will tear. Also too much paint may cover the wax crayon. Leave to dry or speed up with a hairdryer.



8

8. Turn over and repeat step 7 on the wings and tail (fig 8) Leave to dry or speed up with a hairdryer.



9

9. When you are happy with your painting and both sides are completely dry you can add extra details and highlights with your black marker pen and white chalk (fig 9) Try not to get wax crayon on the marker pen and clean the nib by scribbling on a piece of scrap paper after use.



10

10. Your bird is now ready to fly! Find your piece of ribbon and fold it in half. Spread a thin layer of PVA glue over one side of the birds body, on the white inside area then place the two ends of the ribbon on top of the glue along the wing line near the centre (fig10) Leave the ribbon loop sticking out above the wing. Spread a tiny bit more glue on top of the ends of the ribbon (where it is inside the white area) Then carefully fold your bird gluing the body together, fold out the wings and tail and leave to dry. Your card is now ready to post (fig 11) It should fit into an A5/C5 envelope and don't forget to write your message on the card.



11



12

Template for 3D bird card.

You can use this if you are not in project eARTh and don't have a kit with a pre-printed bird template or if you want to make more cards.

Cut the bird out along the solid black lines.

Fold a piece of A4 card or paper in half and place the base of the bird on the fold.

Draw around the bird and then follow the instructions on the worksheet.

The dotted lines are just a guide for where to fold the wings and tail.

